TRENDS

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ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, December 19, 1991 -- Carloadings originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended December 14 totaled 335,694, down 1.1 percent from the corresponding week of 1990 and up 1.5 percent from the preceding week, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads and 97 percent of rail intermodal loadings.

Carloadings originated were down 3.5 percent in the East and up 1.5 percent in the West, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1990 week, loadings of grain increased by 1,309 cars (4.8 percent), loadings of chemicals fell by 1,946 cars (6.5 percent), and motor vehicles and equipment loadings increased by 1,462 cars (9.0 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 50 weeks of 1991 totaled 16,096,892, a decline of 4.8 percent from the comparable period of 1990.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- not included in the carloadings -- totaled 135,103 trailers and containers for the week ended December 14, up 3.8 percent from 1990.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 50 weeks of 1991 was 6,029,808 trailers and containers, 0.5 percent above the 1990 comparable total.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended December 14 totaled 21.0 billion, unchanged from the corresponding week of 1990. Cumulative volume for the first 50 weeks of 1991 was an estimated 999.1 billion ton-miles, down 0.5 percent from the comparable period of last year.

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 14, 1991

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 14, 1991	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1990	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	28,860	27,551	4.8 %	31,025	-7.0 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	2,602	2,131	22.1	2,521	3.2
Metallic Ores	15,844	14,693	7.8	15,694	1.0
Coal	134,705	136,108	-1.0	127,327	5.8
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	12,034	13,697	-12.1	11,906	1.1
Nonmetallic Minerals	8,615	8,519	1.1	7,809	10.3
Grain Mill Products	10,147	10,228	-.8	10,868	-6.6
Food & Kindred Products	9,371	9,787	-4.3	9,469	-1.0
Primary Forest Products	10,029	10,268	-2.3	9,353	7.2
Lumber & Wood Products	5,297	5,402	-1.9	5,306	-.2
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	9,595	10,354	-7.3	10,302	-6.9
Chemicals	27,793	29,739	-6.5	28,929	-3.9
Petroleum Products	5,389	4,836	11.4	5,288	1.9
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	7,983	8,639	-7.6	8,271	-3.5
Coke	5,390	5,493	-1.9	5,414	-.4
Metals & Products	9,408	9,942	-5.4	8,724	7.8
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	17,694	16,232	9.0	18,119	-2.3
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,546	8,361	2.2	8,045	6.2
All Other Carloads	6,392	7,577	-15.6	6,485	-1.4
Total	335,694	339,557	-1.1 %	330,855	1.5 %

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 14, 1991 1991	1990	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 50 WEEKS ENDING DECEMBER 14, 1991 1991	1990	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	335,694	339,557	-1.1 %	16,096,892	16,901,797	-4.8 %
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	70,280	72,238	-2.7	3,102,255	3,339,048	-7.1
Containers	64,823	57,859	12.0	2,927,553	2,661,758	10.0
Total	135,103	130,097	3.8	6,029,808	6,000,806	.5
Estimated Ton-Miles Class I Railroads (Billions)	21.0	21.0	.0 %	999.1 r	1,004.3 r	-.5 %

NOTE: Carloadings are estimated for: Week 50, 1991 - PLE, SP & TM.

r — Cumulative ton-miles revised to reflect reported ton-miles for 3rd Quarter 1991 and corrections to reported ton-miles for 3rd Quarter 1990.